

U.S. Appln. No. 09/850,981
Reply to Office Action dated October 06, 2005

PATENT
450100-03211

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

Claims 1-7 and 9-13 are pending. Claims 1 and 11-13 are independent. Claims 1 and 9-13 are hereby amended. Claim 8 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of any subject matter. No new matter has been introduced. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112.

Independent claims 1 and 11-13 have been amended to incorporate features of claim 8, which was indicated as allowable. Therefore independent claims 1 and 11-13 are patentable.

The other claims are dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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